

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

**Granting Coverage Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
(NPDES) General Permit for Facilities Related to Oil and Gas Extraction on the
North Slope of the Brooks Range, Alaska**

To Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska, Inc., Oooguruk Development Project

January 2007

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to grant coverage under the NPDES General Permit AKG-33-0000 to Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska, Inc., Oooguruk Development Project, authorizing discharges of combined sanitary wastewater and gray water to open waters of the Beaufort Sea, off the North Slope of Alaska. The General Permit establishes requirements, including effluent limitations, monitoring provisions, and other conditions applicable to this operation.

EPA has developed an Environmental Assessment (EA) describing the purpose and need of the action, EPA's proposed action, wastewater discharge alternatives, and mitigation measures. The EA also evaluated the overall environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed project. In accordance with the guidelines for determining the significance of proposed federal actions (40 CFR 1508.27) and EPA criteria for initiating an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (40 CFR Part 6.509), EPA has concluded that granting coverage under the General Permit, as described in the EA, will not result in a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an EIS will not be prepared.

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this FONSI may be submitted, within 30 days of the date of this public notice, to the following address for consideration: Hanh Shaw, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Sixth Avenue, OWW-130, Seattle, WA 98101; Fax: (206) 553-0165; Email: shaw.hanh@epa.gov.

Copies of the EA and FONSI can be obtained by calling Hanh Shaw at (206) 553-0171 or sending an email to shaw.hanh@epa.gov. The documents are also available from the EPA Alaska Operations Office, Room 537, 222 West 7th Avenue, in Anchorage, or are available for public review on EPA's website at www.epa.gov/r10earth/water/npdes.htm.